

TRANSFORMATION

Inaugural Issue

The Wiccan Heart is a symbol of Transformative Wicca, a tradition of worship as compassionate action in the world.

Subscriptions are \$5 for 10 issues (12-month cycle). Send all correspondence to:
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Hail, and Blessings

You are reading the first issue of a networking tool intended to form new links and strengthen existing, between all who know the earth as holy and who feel called to loving service in the world. Although written from the perspective of the Transformative current within contemporary Wicca, it is intended that all elements in natural harmony may be conjured in this undertaking. Spirits of Green, earth-reverent Christians, and all else whose hearts beat the shamanic drum of dancing lightly on Gaia's skin, are our allies and kin. Bless you all.

Since there already exist many publications of varied focus and description in and around the Old Religion, it is appropriate to explain why this new effort is seen as necessary. Also, since any publication uses some of the earth's treasure in materials and energy, there is additional reason to justify such use. This initial issue of Transformation is devoted to introducing our focus, exploring some gestational values, and indicating our hope.

Why Transformative Wicca?

As the catalytic statement (single copy available for SASE) of Transformative Wicca says, ours "is an activist tradition of Craft...we enter the political struggles of our time so that we may conjure peace, justice, and liberation." It is our perception that the world today is in tremendous crisis. Suffering and denial of life's basic necessities are generalized; the air, water, and soil are increasingly poisoned through neglect and greed; and obsession with methods of coercion, torture, and war is a nearly universal dis-ease, to such an extent that the culture of violence is routinely viewed as entertainment.

Our entire sense of the sacred, revolts against these degrading currents. In the face of the ongoing attack upon our nature, we cannot be idle. For us, religion is not something that only happens on full moons, exists in a book, or can be reduced to a ritual. Religion is life in the world, the place that all share. Our fate is each other, the web we together sustain and destroy. This is only another way of saying we are political, for the polis is the interconnected family of beings, whether nonhuman animal, mineral spirits, vegetative members, or human. We are for each other, jumbled together on this sweet earth, and there is, for us, no escaping our response-ability to each other.

The sacredness and power of life manifest in the sacraments of sex, sense, thought, feeling, eating, elimination, and all bodily functions; in work, rest, birth, play, friendship, and death. Everywhere, this simple worship is distorted and threatened by corporate, governmental, and individual obsessions with greed, power as end-in-itself. The sacrament of the world's prevailing powers, is rape: the violent subjection of animal, plant, and mineral nature; women; and all else who live (in that order, from most basic to relatively less blatant). It is this prevailing culture we are called upon to transform, and in that undertaking, be ourselves transformed.

The Transformative tradition exists utterly without hierarchy, being a catalyst and lightning rod, an energy-accumulator and -dispenser. So far as is known, ours is the only current in Wicca that centrally focuses upon the political implications and dimension of the Old Religion. Other traditions and currents of Craft that bear within themselves a political element, are our natural kin and family folk. Previous efforts to conjure a political tradition of Craft, raised energies that now empower us in our work. We would be remiss if we failed to gratefully acknowledge the germinal contributions of the secular women's liberation movement to our understanding and values.

It is felt by those of us who undertake transformative workings, that it is crucial the Old Religion not be merely "groovy" or the province of personal factionalism. The destruction of the world, in all Her forms, has reached a velocity and scope where today, even the polar ice caps have been measurably altered by the practices of corporate ecocide. We must act now. It is urgent to raise the banners of the Old Ones, and to speak for the earth. That is why this newsletter has come into being, as part of a broader, growing network of co-celebrants. Our hope is to save the earth, for nothing less will prove sufficient.

A Networking Tool

It is intended that announcements, invitations to correspond, and pertinent items of brief information will be printed in each issue of Transformation. Although an occasional article may appear (especially in the early issues, until the networking ball gets more actively rolling), the desired focus is to impart information that will help you in your own networking. Please share your suggestions. Articles and "letters to the editor" are not solicited, but all communications will be respectfully read, and have their own, consequent influence. Unlike many other publications, this newsletter is intended to be not a sounding board, but a tool.

The following quotation is extracted from Green Politics, by Charlene Spretnak and Fritjof Capra:

When fear is the core motivation for personal behavior--fear that there is not enough recognition, enough attention, enough appreciation, enough acceptance, enough love to go around--then the creative energy of the group is constricted and the practical expression of Green ideals remains out of reach. Individuals in a Green movement must share a commitment to personal development (which means work) toward wisdom, compassion, and a deep understanding of the essential oneness of all beings or else the larger transformation of society will never be achieved. If such values are not actively accepted as guiding principles, the political work of "saving the world" often results in miserable interior lives and uncomfortable interpersonal relations...

Persons wishing to have more information about the Green movement in North America, may write to:

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